

General Information:

Department Of Elementary and Secondary
Education Division of Special Education

Phone # 573-751-0187

Website: <http://dese.mo.gov/divspeced/FirstSteps>

Training Information:

Website:

<http://mu-cise-web1.coe.missouri.edu/web-cal/>

Provider Enrollment Information:

Phone # 1- 866-711-2573 ext 2

Address: CFO Provider Enrollment
c/o Covansys Software Services
P.O Box 29134
Shawnee Mission, KS 66201-9134

Website: <http://missouri.eikids.com>



Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Division of Special Education
P.O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480

Phone: 573-751-0187

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Website: <http://dese.mo.gov/divspeced/FirstSteps>

Join the
First
Steps
Team!



Service
Coordination
Recruitment

First Steps– Missouri's Early Intervention Program

First Steps is a collaborative effort of the Missouri Departments of Elementary and Secondary Education, Health and Senior Services, Mental Health and Social Services and is supported by federal, state, local and private funds. First Steps offers early intervention services and assistance to families with young children, birth to age 3, who have delayed development or diagnosed conditions that are associated with developmental disabilities. The goal of First Steps is to provide coordinated services for Missouri families as conveniently as possible. Participation in First Steps is voluntary and is intended to help families:

- Understand their child's special needs.
- Obtain the help they desire to deal with situations that could interfere with their child's growth and development.
- Provide the best conditions for their child's growth and development.

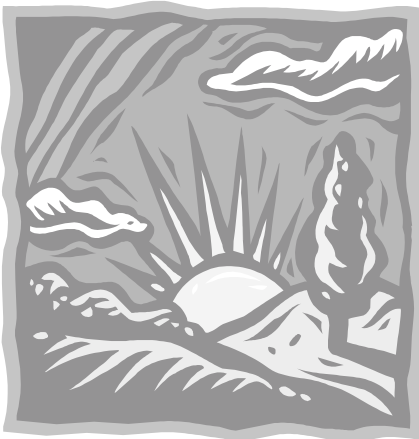


First Steps is implementing a major redesign of the statewide system, which makes available a number of new opportunities for participation by families, providers, and community partners. A critical service provided through First Steps is Service Coordination, which must be provided to each family of an eligible child. First Steps is actively recruiting Service Coordinators throughout Missouri.

Service Coordination

Service Coordination is an active, ongoing process that involves assisting parents of eligible children in gaining access to the early intervention services and other services identified in the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). Service Coordinators

work with families to coordinate these services and other services that the child needs or is being provided. They ensure that



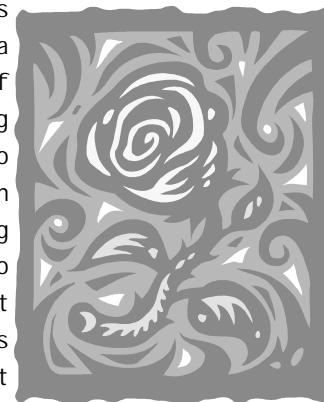
services are delivered in accordance with the IFSP and work continuously with families to seek the additional services and supports necessary to benefit the development of each child and family being served for the duration of the child's eligibility.

Who Can Be a Service Coordinator?

There are two levels of Service Coordination in Missouri. The Specialist level includes individuals with a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Special Education, Early Childhood Education, or a related human service field (e.g. psychology, sociology, social work, child development and family studies, human development). The Associate level requires a high school diploma or GED, and supervision from a fully

credentialed Specialist level Service Coordinator. Service Coordinators may enroll as individual practitioners, or as employees of an agency. They select their service area and practice hours individually. Service Coordinators must also meet the Early Intervention Credential requirements, which are competency based and include the core knowledge and skills that are required of all early intervention personnel who provide services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The Five Core Areas of competency are: Early Intervention Foundations, Child Development and Learning, Family and Community Relationships and Supports, Evaluation and Assessment, and Service Delivery and Implementation.

First Steps offers a series of training modules to providers on an ongoing basis to ensure that all providers can meet these



competencies. These modules are scheduled at a variety of locations and times throughout the state to ensure ready accessibility and availability. There is a \$30 registration fee per module.